GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2006
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
EMPLOYMENT IN I.T. SECTOR
Chaliha Shri Kirip;Mahato Shri Bir Sing;Saroj Shri Daroga Prasad

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) the number of persons likely to get employment in various sectors under Information Technology Industry in the country during the current year;

(b) whether productivity of the persons employed in above industry has also been assessed;

(c) if so, the per capita monthly productivity during this fiscal year; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to extend Information Technology to the rural areas on a large scale?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a): National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has estimated that 150,000 persons are likely to get direct employment in the IT industry during the current year.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): The promotional measures taken by the Government to expand the IT infrastructure and improve computer penetration have helped in extending the reach of Information Technology. Further, the Government has taken special steps to establish Community Information Centres in 487 Blocks of North-Eastern States and Sikkim and 139 Blocks of Jammu & Kashmir to provide connectivity and a range of Government to Citizen services to rural populations.

Under a pilot project designed to address the diverse information needs of rural communities, 4 Rural IT Centres (Samadhan Kendra) have been set up in the villages of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Tamilnadu. Run by local NGOs, these centres provide access to data banks on agriculture, health care, education and training, employment generation activities and women and child development. These centres promote development of local content and generate resources for self-sustenance by charging for the services rendered.

The Government has also sponsored projects for development of technology solutions to rural area specific problems, which impede the proliferation of Information Technology.